

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6684
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN YATRON ON CYPRUS

REFS: (A) STATE 256671; (B) 76 NICOSIA 1024; (C) 76 NICOSIA 1132

1. WE CONCUR IN MOST ELEMENTS OF DRAFT RESPONSE TO
SEPTEMBER 18 YATRON LETTER (PARA 3 REF A), BUT HAVE
FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

2. IN THE SECOND PARAGRAPH, SUGGEST REFERENCE TO MAKARIOS
BY TITLE IN SECOND SENTENCE AS FOLLOWS: "...THE GREEK-
INSPIRED COUP AGAINST PRESIDENT MAKARIOS..." GOC HAS ALWAYS
BEEN SENSITIVE ON THIS POINT. WE SUGGEST A FINAL SENTENCE
BE ADDED TO THE SAME PARAGRAPH ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:
"THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS HAS ALSO TAKEN
A HELPFUL INTEREST IN THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN CYPRUS;
WE HOPE THE COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO BE INVOLVED IN
MONITORING THE SITUATION AND ASSISTING AFFECTED PERSONS."

3. THE MIDDLE PORTION OF THE THIRD PARAGRAPH OF THE
LETTER IS TOO STRONG. THE UNITED STATES HAS EVIDENCE
THAT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN AND PROPERTY RIGHTS DID OCCUR

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WELL AFTER THE COMING INTO EFFECT OF THE FORMAL CEASE-
FIRE AGREEMENT, EVEN AS LATE AS THE SUMMER OF 1976
(SEE REFS B AND C). INDIVIDUAL ACTS OF VIOLENCE,
LOOTING, DESECRATION OF CHURCHES, ETC., EFFECTIVELY
CEASED IN THE FALL OF 1974, BUT THERE CONTINUED TO BE
A SYSTEMATIC PROGRAM OF PRESSURE ON GREEK CYPRIOTS TO
LEAVE THEIR PROPERTIES IN THE NORTH UNTIL JANUARY 1977.

AS POINTED OUT IN REFS B AND C, TURKISH CYPRIOT OFFICIALS HAVE INFORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGED TO US THAT THIS POLICY WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE MAINLAND MILITARY COMMAND IN CYPRUS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL. WE HAVE NO DIRECT EVIDENCE THAT GOT ANKARA STIMULATED THIS POLICY OF FORCED POPULATION TRANSFER, BUT IT IS INCONCEIVABLE TO US THAT THE MAINLAND MILITARY COMMANDERS COULD HAVE ACTED ON SUCH AN IMPORTANT MATTER, OVER A PROTRACTED PERIOD, WITHOUT TGS/GOT SANCTION. WE WOULD POINT OUT THAT BOTH THE EXPULSION OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT POPULATION IN TURKISH-OCCUPIED CYPRUS AND THE CONCURRENT, ALBEIT LIMITED, IMPORTATION OF A TURKISH POPULATION APPEAR TO VIOLATE ARTICLE 49 OF THE FOURTH GENEVA CONVENTION.

4. RECOMMEND SENTENCE IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH, WHICH READS: "THE ACTUAL TRUTH MAY NEVER BE FULLY DETERMINED", BE DELETED. THE STATEMENT IS NOT INCORRECT IN THAT WORDS "ACTUAL" AND "FULLY" IMPLY A DEGREE OF PRIGURJ# PROBABLY NEVER WILL BE ESTABLISHED. ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS AMPLE EVIDENCE THAT PRESSURE WAS A FACTOR IN THE DECISION OF MANY GREEK CYPRIOTS TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES. CRAWFORD

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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